

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 303822
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 DHA-02 ORM-02 CIAE-00 INR-07
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DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:RCGRAHAM:RC
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R 151649Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

UNCLAS STATE 303822

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, UY

SUBJECT: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL CONCERN FOR GENERAL LIBER
SREGNI

REF: MONTEVIDEO 0744

1. IN OBSERVATION OF "PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE" WORLDWIDE
CAMPAIGN BEING UNDERTAKEN BY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, URUGU-
AYAN DESK HAS RECEIVED NUMBER OF TELEGRAMS AND PHONE
CALLS FROM INDIVIDUALS EXPRESSING CONCERN FOR GENERAL
SREGNI AND PROTESTING HIS IMPRISONMENT AND REPORTED
TORTURE.

2. INQUIRIES HAVE COME FROM GROUP WHICH ATTENDED MEETING
SPONSORED BY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, DECEMBER 9, WHERE
JUAN FERREIRA SPOKE ABOUT SREGNI. ACCORDING TO FERREIRA,
SREGNI WAS ORIGINALLY ARRESTED IN JULY 1973 AND RELEASED
NEAR THE END OF 1974. HE WAS THEN REARRESTED IN JANUARY
1976 AND HAS BEEN HELD SINCE WITHOUT BEING FORMALLY
CHARGED.

3. THE INQUIRIES TO THE DESK WERE TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH
SREGNI'S BIRTHDAY. INQUIRIES SAY THEY HAVE BEEN TOLD
THAT SREGNI HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO TORTURE. ASSUMPTION
OF TORTURE IS BASED ON FERREIRA STATEMENT THAT SREGNI'S
WIFE "RECEIVES HIS BLOODY CLOTHING SENT FROM PRISON FROM
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TIME TO TIME."

4. IN THEIR CAPACITY AS PRIVATE CITIZENS, AND NOT REPRESENTATIVES OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, THE INQUIRERS HAVE ASKED THAT THE USG MAKE KNOWN TO THE GOU THEIR CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF SEREGNI. THE EMBASSY WILL EXERCISE ITS OWN DISCRETION IN MAKING INQUIRIES REGARDING SEREGNI. WE DO WISH TO BE RESPONSIVE. WHATEVER INFORMATION THE EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF SEREGNI SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY CABLE.

KISSINGER

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NNN

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Disposition Event:
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